# HONOVR.

IN HIS

# PERFECTION:

OR,

A TREATISE IN COMMENDATIONS OF THE Vertues and Renowned Vertuous vndertakings of the Illustrious and Heroyicall Princes

HENRY Earle of *Oxenford.*

HENRY Earle of *Southampton.*

ROBERT Earle of *Essex,*

AND

The euer praise-worthy and much honoured Lord,

ROBERT BARTVE, Lord *Willoughby,* of *Eresby*: With a Briefe Cronology of Theirs, and their Aunce-stours Actions.

And to the eternall memory of all that follow them now, or will imitate them hereafter, especially those three Noble Instances, the Lord *Wriouthesley*, the Lord *Delaware*, and the Lord *Montioy.*

——— *At nunc horrentia Martis*
*Arma virumq́, Cano* ———

LONDON,
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# TO THE HONOVR, AND Erernall Memorie of the Foure Illuſtrious, Great, Heroyicall and Noble Houſes; The Houſe of OXFORD, The Houſe of SOVTHAMPTON, The Houſe of ESSEX, And the Houſe of WILLOVGHBY, and to alll the liuing Braunches, Males and Females which truly deriue themſelues from *any of thoſe long honoured and Princely Families.*

IF I ſhould labor (right Honourably honourable, and you glorious Branches of theſe goodly Cedars which I would preſerue to Eternitie) to giue a generall contentment to all which ſhall vouchſafe to looke vpon this litle Treatiſe: my worke would be infinite, and the ende like a ſhadow euer fartheſt off when I did couet to be moſt neere it; for it is a maxime: *That he which did well, offended ſome, yet an Apoſtle; Hee that did worſt, pleaſed many, and yet was but a Beaſt; and He that did beſt of all, could not pleaſe all, and yet was God*; So various are the mindes of men, and ſo curious the dyet of thoſe which feede on varie-

tie; Beſides *Slander* (who hath much Tongue and litle Fore-head, who is not pleaſed, but in licking of *Vlcers*. Is euer ſo Impudent, that it dare miſ-interpret, Nick-name and abuſe any vertuous meaning: therefore to theſe children of *Spleene* and *Paſſion* (who are mouthd like *Anius-Satire*, & can blow both hot & cold at one inſtant) I direct none of my Labours; But to You, You that are the Iſſues of true Honour; You in whom they all liue of whom I haue written; You whom Goodneſſe will not gine leaue to doe or thinke any thing euill; to You, in all humbleneſſe, I direct this Seruant of your Families Vertues: doe not imagine it is a Chronicle of all their Noble Actions, farre be it from my weak-neſſe to aime at a Worke of ſuch merit: let it ſuffice it is but an Eſſay or Imperfit offer of thoſe excellencies, which no doubt, will hereafter draw a Penne of Immortalitie to to crowne them. Nor was this done ſo much to extoll and renowne them, as to quicken and ſet on fire the noble hearts of many others, which now like ſome of the Statues or the Monuments in

Weſt-

Weſt-Minſter lye ſleeping on their Elbowes : Thus if the Worke bee taken, it hath got a true Coniecture, if otherwiſe, that men bee couetous, and will ſeeke for more then my Knowledge is able to pay ; Let them not blame mee, if I giue there expectations leaue to periſh, and only ſubmit my ſelfe, and my Labour to Your noble Cenſure, beſeeching Your Charitie to protect it, whilſt my ſelfe will euer liue,

*A deuoted and true admirer*
*of your honourd Vertues*

G. M.

# THE FOVRE REGIMENTS.

The Ear. of Southampton. Col.
Sr. Iohn Burlacy Lieu. col.
Sr. Iarret Ashley. Ser. Maior.
Lord Wryotheſley.
Lord Montioy.
Sr. Thomas Littleton.
Captaine { Henry Barkley. / Crumwel. / Hubbert. / Iames Iucks. / Goring. / Coniers.

The Earle of Oxford. Col.
Sr. Iames Leuyſton. Lieu. col.
Captaine Seton. Ser. Maior.
Lord Delaware.
Sir { Dudly North. / William Heydon. / William Brunckard. / Iohn Weintworth. / Henry Crofts. / Edward Hawley.
Captain Henry Weintworth.
Captaine William Ramſey.

The Earle of Eſſex. Col.
Sr. Charles Rich. Liu. col.
Captain Swanton. Ser. Mai.
Sr. Walter Deuoreux.
Sr. Robert Knolles.
Sr. Iohn Ouzley.
Sr. Sigiſmond Zinzan.
Captaine { Throgmorton. / Terringham. / Weynman. / Higham. / Daues.

The Lord Willoughby. Col.
Sr. Edw. Conwey. Lieu col.
Cap. Tho. Conwey. Ser. Mai.
Sr. Peregrine Bartue.
Sr. Iohn Ratcliffe.
Captaine { Conwey. / Hunks. / Clapton. / Terwitt. / Aſhburnham. / Vane. / Goodryke.

# HONOVR IN HIS PERFECTION.

THE greateſt and moſt glorious worke that euer the ſupreame and diuine Maieſtie brought to paſſe, was the Creation of the World: The moſt excellenteſt thing that he therein created was Man, And the moſt neceſſarieſt function which he ordained for the propagation both of the one and others Glory, was a *Souldier*: Then a *Souldier* nothing more needfull, nothing more abſolute, more perfit. It began with the World, for when *Adam* offended, a fierie Sword in the hand of an heauenly *Souldier* draue him out of Paradiſe.

The excellencie and neceſſitie of a *Souldier*.

The antiquity of a *Souldier*.

A *Souldier* is the right arme of Iuſtice, and carries the Sword; *wiſedome* is the left, and beares the Ballance, without a *Souldier* no eſtate, no Commonwealth can flouriſh: Who ſhall vnmaske falſe pretences, but the *Souldier*? who ſhall confound the ſecret ſubtill Traitor, but the *Souldier*? who ſhall tread downe the publike daring Rebell, but the *Souldier*? and indeed,

What a *Souldier* is, and his duties

who ſhall or can doe right to all men, but the *Souldier?*

If then the Souldier be thus good, thus ancient, thus iuſt, and thus needfull, how many Glories ought to crowne and attend him? why all whatſoeuer that can be accounted Glorious, as the conqueſt ouer *Daunger*, ouer *Labour*, and ouer *Paſsion*; the defence of true Religion, true Titles, and true vndertakings: He ſhall haue all the Glories of the Earth, as praiſe from the Greateſt, reuerence from the wiſeſt, and wonder from all: he ſhal haue the Glories of Garments; as Crowns, Garlands, Plumes, and Scarfes; the glorie of Place, as the *Chaire* for Counſell, and the *Chariot* for triumph; the glory of Buriall, as Tombes, Temples, Hearſes, Epitaphs; nay after all, the glory of Eternitie, that is, famous Cronicles to keepe his Name and Reputation to eternall memorie, and Heauen for his ſoule, where he ſhall liue with God for euer.

What Glories attend a *Souldier*.

But ſome here wil aske me, why ſhal a *Souldier* haue all theſe glories? only becauſe he is needfull, becauſe he is ancient, becauſe he is iuſt? yes, for them & an infinite number of other Vertues; for in the Souldier lies the protection of Ladies, the defence of Orphanes, the relieſe of Widowes, the ſupport of weakneſſe; the ſtrength of goodneſſe, & the vtter deſtruction of all that can be named vitious; it is his Actions which muſt make vp the myrror wherein true *Honour* is to be ſeene, his words that muſt pull *Truth* from darkeneſſe; and his Thoughts which (being euer buſie in Heauen) muſt keepe the Earth in forme and true order: It is his Vallour that muſt make all dangers aſſaileable; his Wiſdome that muſt make a ſeparation betwixt good and euill; his Temperance, that muſt

Why the *Souldier* is glorified

quench

quench the flames of Princes angers, and his Iuſtice that muſt diſtribute to all the portion of equitie.

Is the *Souldier* thus excellent? O then! what Reward can be good enough, great enough for ſo infinit perfection? only three Coynes muſt make vp the full ſumme, wherewith to repay and reward euery well deſeruing Souldier: The firſt is *Fame*, or Good report which all men owe, not only to thoſe which defend them, but to all that vndertake or performe any noble Action; this if we ſcant, we take from them the foode of their *Reputation*, and ſtarue all their worthy Actions; The ſecond is *Wealth*, or a competent and bountefull maintenance to ſupport the Souldier in his place, and make him capable of glorious vndertakings, which abated or detained it takes from the Body ſtrength, from the Heart courage, and from the Minde hope, leauing behind in the emptie places nothing but anger and enuie; The laſt & beſt of all is *Honour*, this the Prince ought to giue to deſert; this the Souldier ought to receiue for deſert: this when the Prince hath giuen, the people muſt and ought to admire, for *Let all men honour whom the Prince honoureth*; this when it is neglected, *Gratitude* ſits wringing of her hands, and cryes, O *Seneca*! where are thy Benefits?

The Reward of a *Souldier*.

*Fame*.

*Wealth*.

*Honour*.

But ſome will aske me, what is this Honour which I make ſo excellent, and that it is the only Reward for a Souldier; I anſwer with *Caſſanæus*, that Honour is the witneſſe of the excellencie in a man; but chiefly according to his Vertue, and therfore according to Vertue & dignitie are Honors to be giuen; It is that (ſaith he)

What Honour is.

which is to be preferred before all earthly things, because it and honestie doe walke continually hand in hand with mans life, it is not comprehended within the compasse of this word *Praise* or *Laude*; no, it is of much greater excellencie; for *Honour* is euer of it selfe and in it selfe, but *Praise* is euer deriued from another; to conclude, *Honour* is the food of euery great spirit, and the very god which creates in high minds Heroicall actions; it is so dilicate and puer that any excesse doth staine it, any vniust action dishonours it, any motion that smels either of folly, of sloath, or of rashnesse, puts it out of countenance; but an ignoble deed that vtterly ruines it: This is *Honour*, and this is no vnnecessary thing, for it is all the reward that Vertue can bestow vpon her selfe or fixe vnto the deserts of the Souldier which is the most needfull calling. It is that which preserues Order, and knits together the bodie of euery Common-wealth, for take away Honour, where is our Reuerence? take away Reuerence? what are our Lawes? and take away Law, and man is nothing but a grosse masse of all impietie. Neither is this Honour any new thing, for it was inuested into *Adam* at his creation, and thence decended to *Noah*; from *Noah* it came to *Abraham*, from *Abraham* it came to *Moses*, from *Moses* to *Salomon*, from *Salomon* to the Incarnation of our Sauiour, and from him to the end of the World; and as it is thus ancient, so is Honour likewise eternall: for that Honour which is worthily giuen, worthily receiued, and worthily preserued, that *Honour* can not be said euer to die, for the memorie is euerlasting, and the reward can neuer perish; witnesse the Trumpet of *Moses*, the Harpe of *Dauid*

The difference betwixt Honor and Laude.

The antiquitie of Honour.

Honour is eternall.

*Dauid*, and the holy ſong in foure parts of the bleſt Euangeliſts : As it is eternall, ſo it is alſo Generall and diſpierced, not confin'd or bounded within limits, it flyes ouer all the corners of the Earth, and couers the face thereof as with a Curtaine; there is no Nation ſo vnfortunate, nor no people ſo ſtupid, but in ſome religious and formall manner they receiue, preferre, and eſteeme of *Honour*, witneſſe the infinite Titles of *Honour* which are at this day giuen through all Nations ; And reaſon it ſhould be ſo eſteemed, if for no other cauſe, yet for the priuiledges which depend and belong vnto it, as precedancie and prioritie of place, and the glories and beauties which belong to the beſt place; as to ſome the Throne, to ſome the Chaire, to ſome the Bench, and to ſome the Altar. It hath priueledge of Ornament, as Crownes, and Sceptors, Coronets, Swords, and Bautricks, Gloues, and Spurs, Mantels, Pales, and Surcoats, and a world of other, according to the greatneſſe of the Title, and cuſtome of Kingdomes : *Honour* hath alſo the priuiledge of perſon, for it is held ignoble in any man to doe iniury to a noble Captiue, and howſoeuer they may be commanded, yet they may not be tormented; it hath priuiledge to diſpence with yeares, with Lawes, with Cuſtomes, and to conclude, it is only *Honour* which hath priuiledge to beſtow *Honours*.

Honour vniuerſall.

The priuiledges of Honour

Thus thou ſeeſt O *Britaine* (and ſee it with all thine eies) what a true Souldier is, how neceſſary, how ancient, how iuſt, and how glorious : Thou ſeeſt alſo the Reward, which in duty thou art bound to beſtow vpon him, *Fame*, *Wealth*, and *Honour*. O then rouſe thee from thine eaſie bed of Securitie, and breake from thy

Inuocation on Great *Britaine*.

heauy eye-lids thy long ſlumber of Peace, and looke O looke now vpon thy Princely Souldiers, looke vpon theſe foure Noblemen, *Oxford*, *Southampton*, *Eſſex*, and *Willoughby*, who like the foure Seaſons of the yeare, ioyne together to make thee a plentifull harueſt of thine owne hearts wiſhes: Looke vpon theſe, and loue them, looke vpon theſe and admire them: Theſe goe not, to acquire *Honour*, for they haue infinite Oceans of their owne, and infinite Seas can deriue from their fore-fathers Vertues; but theſe goe to doe the worke of *Honour*, a worke which I hope God and his Angels will further with proſperitie, and all good men will praiſe to the very laſt Generation: Theſe goe not to make themſelues greater then they are, but to manifeſt to the World, that they owe vnto God this ſeruice for the greatneſſe which they hold; theſe clamber not vp to catch the Moone, but rather looke lower then themſelues, that they may finde out Heauen; theſe goe not to pay a new fine for new Honours newly receiued from a bountifull Maieſtie. But theſe goe to pay the old rent which they doe, and their fore-fathers did owe to thee O *Britaine*, and him that in thee is the Lords anointed; to conclude, theſe go not to put thee in hope of what they may do by any new attemptings, but rather to giue thee aſſurance what they will doe (God proſpering them) by their old moſt noble examples.

The foure Vndertakers.

What they goe to doe.

I ſay againe, then rouſe thy ſelfe O *Britaine*, and giue vnto theſe thy Worthies, giue vnto theſe thy Souldiers that Reward which is due to their Goodneſſe, giue them *Fame*, giue them noble *Fame*, giue them *Fame* euerlaſting, fill euery Trumpet full of their praiſes

A reawaking of *Britaine*.

praiſes,and let no ſounds be heard in thy Streetes,but ſuch as may beare vpon them the eccho of their renoune and vertue ; bleſſe thoſe which ſhall bleſſe them, and curſe thoſe which ſhall curſe them; ſay vnto thoſe which ſhall wiſh them good lucke, you are my children, and my breaſts ſhall nourith you; to thoſe which ſing praiſe of them, you are my Swannes and I haue Laurell to crowne you ; to thoſe which ſhall Regiſter their good actions, I haue Chronicles, and you ſhall write them; and to thoſe which ſhall pray for them, I haue Pulpets, and onely you ſhall ſpeake in them. But vnto thoſe who ſhall murmure againſt them; to thoſe which miſ-interpret, diſgrace, depraue, or with ruine to their proceedings, ſay vnto them, they are the baſtards of the great Whore,and they and their ſeede haue beene accurſed before all Generations ; ſay indeed plainly (and ſay truly) that they are the ſons of the deuill, begotten on the Pope, nurſt vp by the Ieſuite (which is the eldeſt ſonne of Murther) and protected by that *Nymrod* which hunteth after Kings,and thinkes the whole World too little for his backe-Burthen : This ſay vnto them, and forſake them; ſpue them out of thy mouth,caſt them from thy breaſt, and let them only find their portions amongſt thoſe Fugitiues, which (hauing no Vertues to carry along with them) are truly wretched, truly miſerable,in euery habitation.

An incouragement to her friends.

Who are her foes.

Giue vnto thy Souldiers of thy wealth, of thy riches,bring them offerings and oblations of thy ſtore, ſuch as may incourage them to goe forward in thy worke, and ſtrengthen and ſupport them againſt all the deadly aſſaults of *Neceſſitie*, nor of thy [illegible] and [illegible]y

Gifts for her friends.

Difference of gifts.

vnworthy ſtore, of thy leane Cattell, and thy blaſted fruit, of thy mouldy bread or putrifide water, but bring them of the ripeſt cluſters of thy beſt grapes, the fatlings of thy flockes, and the beſt Iewels which adorne thee; this will expreſſe the worthineſſe of thy nature, and this will make them finde out dores and

The effects of good gifts.

waies to enter and conquer all impoſſibilities; this will make them ſo vigilant and watchfull in occaſions, ſo carefull and ſecure in all attemptings, and ſo prouident and valyant in the conqueſt of euery daunger, that as *Pericles* ſaid to the *Athenians*, ſo will they ſay to their followers, *If no men but we leade you to death you ſhall be immortall.* Laſtly, giue vnto theſe good ones the full meaſure of all true Honour and Renowne; let them haue Honour in thy Streetes, in thy Houſes, in thy Courts, in thy Churches, and in all places; let their Statues adorne thy beſt roomes, let their Chronicles furniſh thy beſt Lybraries, and let their memories keepe thy children awake to the end

How to helpe weake minds.

of all poſteritie. When thou wilt ſeeke to erect or build vp a great Spirit in a weake breaſt, when thou wilt vnder-prop the declining or falling Vertue of a miſled goodneſſe, when thou wilt reuiuee a courage that is murtherd by Fortune, or Stiffled by Ingratitude, when thou wouldſt inflame a ſoule that hath beene quencht with too much Auſteritie, or dampt and halfe ſmotherd vp with contempt; or indeed, when thou wouldſt to any great one doe a great, a good, and a noble office, then reade vnto them the Stories of theſe Noblemens liues, and the Stories of their Noble Progenitors; for I eleeue it, if there be in thoſe loſt ones any matter whereon to worke, if they

be

be not all dead flesh, all fleame, or all snow water; these and their Aunceſtours are Sunnes, whoſe fires are able to quicken and giue life; nay euen to create and giue being to the drieſt piece of Noble earth that euer was forſaken.

The Storie of the Houſe of *Oxford* compared with *Cæſar*.

And firſt begin with *Oxford*, whoſe Honour is as old as the Roman Monarchie; ſhew them, that when *Cæſar* flouriſht then *Verus* grew and brought forth flowers and fruits, as noble as auncient, and though in euery degree not ſo potent and admired, yet (by the oddes of ambition) a thouſand times more wholſome and more glorious, and what is a bleſſing aboue all bleſſings, many Ages longer laſting; for what is left of *Cæſar* but his name, when of that *Verus* is yet left a *Vere*, and to our fore-fathers many *Veres*, as good, as excellent as *Cæſar*, but by many degrees much more fortunate; for though *Cæſar* were neuer ſo Noble by his Birth, neuer ſo happy in his Conqueſts, neuer ſo much beloued for particular Vertues; yet by a Iury of two and fiftie of his Peeres, he was condemned of Ambition; euery one gaue him a wound, and euery wound ſealed vpon his body the ſentence of guiltie, ſo that howſoeuer he fell after an vniuſt manner; yet he iuſtly fell, for the action was vniuſt to which he aſpired: neither at this day is there left any of his bloud, no, not any ſmall ſprig or ſpray of his moſt extrauagant Braunches: the Houſe of *Auſtria*, though they borrow his name for glory ſake, yet they cannot begge his pedigree for truth ſake; they haue much of *Cæſars* Maieſtie, but not all *Cæſars* vertue: Whereas our *Vere*, was with *Cæſar* as noble, as good, as auncient as he was, and is with vs as great,

as worthy, as renowned, and as hopefull as euer his Aunceſtours was, and what is the moſt memorableſt and moſt glorious Sunne which euer gaue light or ſhine to Nobilitie? our *Veres*, from the firſt houre of *Cæſar* to this preſent day of King *Iames* (which is aboue a thouſand ſeuen hundred yeares agoe) neuer let their feet ſlip from the path of Nobilitie, neuer knew a true ecclipſe of glory, neuer found declination from Vertue, neuer forſooke their Countrie being wounded, or their lawfull King diſtreſſed, neuer were attainted, neuer blemiſht, but in the puritie of their firſt Garments and with that excellent white and vnſpotted innocencie wherewith it pleaſed the firſt Maieſtie to inueſt them, they liued, gouerned, and dyed, leauing the memory thereof on their Monuments, and in the peoples hearts; and the Imitation to all the Princes of the World, that either would be accounted good men or would haue good men to ſpeake good things of their actions.

A memorable note.

The Storie of *Iohn* Earle of *Oxford* the 15. Earle.

Witneſſe to this (amongſt the infinite Stories of this noble Houſe) the memorable Actions of that high and Illuſtrious Prince, that neuer enough to be praiſed great one, *Iohn* Earle of *Oxford*, who in the daies of *Henry* the ſixt, tooke that deuout and Religious King his Soueraigne, and the ſonne of *Henry* the fift (his fathers Soueraigne) into his armes, and protected him againſt the many fearefull and terrible aſſaults of the great Houſe of *Yorke*; ſtaid him when he was falling, raiſed him vp when he was fallen, reteined him, and put new oyle to his lampe when all the firſt glory was waſted, and till the power of all powers would giue him leaue to proceede no further, he held

held vp the poore weake royall barke (contrary to all probabilitie) againſt all the waues, windes, and tempeſts of misfortunes; Inſomuch, that *Edward* the fourth (amazed at his actions) ſaid, that *Oxford was an Eagle in the warres, and ſoared aboue the Clouds when he thought to take him, but fell ſuddenly vpon thoſe which held him farther off, and ſhewed them deſtruction:* and the Duke of *Gloceſter* being asked his opinion of this Earle, ſaid, *He was the beſt Sword and Buckler that euer defended the Houſe of Lancaſter*, whereas if hee had beene his friend, his conſcience would haue told him, that a wiſer Prince there was not any found; a more couragious the World bare not, and a better there could not be; and to this his after actions gaue teſtimonie, for when he had ſeene the laſt ruine of his royall Maſter, with whom although he could not vtterly fall, yet hee muſt of neceſſity a little decline, and although the ſmalleſt capitulation might haue made him greater then his owne deſires, or full as great as the greateſt of his friends wiſhes, yet did neither the one nor the other moue him, but he is content to ſit ſilent, and fixing his heart neither on this ſide nor beyond the loue of his Country, but iuſt vpon that obiect, watches and conſumes his times to behold what conſtellation rules her: as ſoone as he eſpies that Canicular ſtarre *Richard* the third to ariſe, and ſees how he burnes vp the Nobilitie, waſts the Gentry, brings into contempt the Clergie, and leaues no moiſture to ſupple the whole face of the Land, but blood & weepings; then this Romane Eagle, *Iohn* of *Oxford* rouſes himſelfe, ſhakes his wings, and flyes into the boſome of *Henry* Earle of *Richmund* the greateſt and

*Edward* the 4. his opinion of *Oxford.*

*Oxford* againſt *Richard* the third.

*Oxford* comes to Earle *Richmund,*

next ſuruiuing branch of the Houſe of *Lancaſter*: him ſhe inſpires with the knowledge of his own right, with wiſdome how to chalenge that right, and with courage how to gaine it; hee giues him a feeling of thoſe calamities which call vpon him, ſhewes how needfull it is that thoſe teares ſhould be dryed; and laſtly, with what eaſe his Sword may performe both the one and the other cuer: This done, hee brings him into England, pitches his Tents neere vnto *Boſworth*, makes that field a Theater, where *Richmund* acts his part ſo to the life, that *Honour* comes downe from Heauen to dwell with him and his poſteritie for euer: and *Richard* acts his part, ſo for life, that valour and courage appeare glorious, how euill ſoeuer the cabinet be which containes them; and betwixt theſe, *Oxford* acts his part with ſuch Iuſtice, that whereſoeuer his ſword comes, *Angels* ſeeme to weild it while *Victorie* Crownes it; neither did he in this Battaile ſuit his place according to his greatneſſe, which Reaſon and the neceſſitie of thoſe times would haue wiſht to haue beene moſt ſecure, (for there were greater expectations in him then *Hazard*) but hee makes his Greatneſſe now to ſerue the neceſſitie of the place, and where danger appeared moſt powerfull, there he made his abode, and there he triumphed. The Front or Vanguard that day of the Earle of *Richmunds* Armie were Archers, and theſe the Earle lead, theſe hee brought on with ſuch brauery, theſe hee ordered with ſuch skill, and theſe he taught to fight with ſuch noble encouragements, that euery ſhower of arrowes which he ſent to the Enemie, fell like Tempeſts vpon them, ſo that ſome ſplit with the Lightning, ſome periſht with

*Oxford* brings *Richmund* into England.

*Oxfords* actions at Boſworth field.

*Oxford* leades the Vanguard.

the blow, and a world of hearts fell downe with amazement; whilſt ſtill this braue Earle keepes his conſtant behauiour, and like a Thunderbolt flyes through his enemies Battalions and breakes them aſunder, and when any of his party began to droope, it is ſaid, that the very ſight of him and his actions, like liquid *Bitumen* ſet them new on fier and made their flames ſo ſtrong there was no power to quench them; thus he brought victorie to the wiſeſt of Princes (*Henry* the ſeuenth) and reſtored againe to its former greatneſſe the almoſt loſt Houſe of royall *Lancaſter*; and that it might neuer fall againe, he ioyned it in a perpetuall loue-knot, with the Houſe of Yorke, making the white Roſe and the Red one entier flower, by the happy and bleſt Marriage with the Lady *Elizabeth* daughter to *Edward* the fourth; vnto which Obligation only the Earle of *Oxford* firſt bound the Earle of *Richmund* before he vndertooke his quarrell; what ſhall we ſay more of this excellent Prince, this good Prince; but only thus, that as few or none equalled his great deeds, ſo fewe or none ariued at his great reward, for his life was happy and crownd with all the bleſſings which Greatneſſe could deſire; as the loue and fauour of a wiſe King, the reſpect of a powerfull Nobilitie, and the admiration of a ſtrong and potent people. So alſo was his death happy, for he dyed ere any of theſe bleſſings could wither, and ſo carryed them all to the graue greene and flouriſhing. Laſtly, he was bleſt in his poſteritie, for he left an Iſſue behind him, which were then as hopefull, and proued after as fortunate, and of this Iſſue Time hath yet neuer found an end; neither doe I thinke

*Oxford* wonne the field.

*Oxfords* happineſſe.

it euer ſhall while *Vertue* ruleth.

A diſcourſe of *Iohn* the 16. Earle of *Oxford*.

After this, *Iohn* ſucceeded, his ſonne; who in the daies of *Henry* the eight, ſhewed equall vallour, and encountered with equall Fortune, all which to expreſſe at large, were to turne a ſhort Encomium into a large Chronicle, and therefore to thoſe Annals I referre you: only as Geographers doe demonſtrate out infinite Riuers by ſmall lines, and huge Cities by little prickes; ſo I will by a ſhort relation of one of his ſmaleſt actions diſcouer the vnbounded greatnes of his minde, and the rare temper of his condition.

*Oxford* kils a Wild-Boare.

Being in *France* vpon ſerious negotiations for the King his Maſter; this Earle of *Oxford* was entertained with all the pompe and State that either Pleaſure or Magnificence could produce; and amongſt the reſt, by reaſon of his warlike diſpoſition, he was inuited to the hunting of a wilde Boare, a ſport mixt with much danger, and deſeruing the beſt mans beſt care for preſeruation of his ſafetie; whence it comes, that the Frenchmen when they hunt this beaſt are euer armed with light Armes, mounted on horſe-backe, and hauing chaſing ſtaues like launces in their hands, To this ſport the Earle of *Oxford* goes; but no otherwiſe attyred then as when hee walked in his owne priuate bed-Chamber, only a dauncing rapyer by his ſide; neither any better mounted, then on a plaine Engliſh Tracconer, or an ambling Nagge; Anone the Boare is put on foote (which was a Beaſt both hudge and fierce) the chaſe is eagerly purſued, many affrights are giuen, & many dangers eſcaped; at laſt the Earle weary of the toyle or elſe vrged by ſome other neceſſitie, alights from his horſe and walkes alone by himſelfe

ſelfon foot,whē ſuddenly down the path in which the Earle walked,came the inraged Beaſt,with his mouth all foamie,his teeth whetted,his briſtles vp,& al other ſignes of fury and anger;the Gallants of France cry vnto the Earle to run aſide & ſaue himſelf,euery one hallowed out that he was loſt,&(more then their wiſhes) none there was that durſt bring him ſuccour: But the Earle (who was as careleſſe of their clamours, as they were carefull to exclame) alters not his pace nor goes an haires bredth out of his path, and finding that the Boare and he muſt ſtruggle for paſſage, drawes out his Rapyer, and at the firſt encounter, ſlew the Boare: which when the French Nobilitie perceiued, they came galloping in vnto him and made the wonder in their diſtracted amazements, ſome twelue times greater then *Hercules* twelue labours, all ioyning in one, that it was an act many degrees beyond poſſibilitie,and that he was infinitely beholden to diuine aid, for hee had done more then man could promiſe to himſelfe,or was likely for man euer to performe hereafter; and ſome of the greater ſort (who had a ſtronger tie of his familiaritie) began in the way of admiration to reprehend his too much ouer-daring,ſaying O my Lord,why would you ingage your perſon thus dangerouſly, you haue done an act aboue courage, and eſcapt your death beyond hope: but the Earle ſeeing their diſtraction, replyed (my Lords) what troubles you, or what myrackle haue I done of which I haue no feeling, is it the killing of this Engliſh *Pyg?* why euery boy in my Nation would haue performed it, they may be Bug-beares to the French, to vs they are but ſeruants;I tel you,had an heard of Lyons beene

The Frenchmens admiration.

beene in his place, I would haue done as much, and ſaid vnto them with the Poet, *Dominum cognoſcite veſtrum*, I tell you man was created Maſter of all liuing Creatures; at this the French were mute and only ſaid amongſt themſelues, that his valour and his Fortune had ſhakt hands and agreed to raiſe his name aboue compariſon and ſo they returned to *Paris* with the ſluine Beaſt, where the wonder did neither decreaſe nor die, but to this day liues in many of their old Annals.

*Edward* the 17 Eale of *Oxford.*

Deſcend but to the noble Father of this princely *Oxford* now liuing, and you ſhall finde, that although the bleſſed armes of *Peace*, in the bleſſed daies of the euer bleſſed *Elizabeth*, did ſo toulde and imbrace our Kingdome about, that euery valiant arme for want of imployment, lay as it were manakled and fettered from the vſe of weapon; yet this Nobleman breakes off his Gyues, and both in *Italie*, *France*, and other Nations, did more Honour to this Kingdome then all that haue trauelled ſince he tooke his iourney to heauen. It were infinite to ſpeake of his infinite expence, the infinite number of his attendants, or the infinite houſe he kept to feede all people; were his preſident now to be followed by all of his ranke, the Pope might hang himſelfe for an Engliſh Papiſt; diſcontentment would not feede our enemies Armies, nor would there be either a Gentleman or Scholler to make a Maſſe-Prieſt or a Ieſuite; that he was vpright and honeſt in all his dealings the few debts he left behinde him to clog his ſuruiuours, were ſafe pledges; and that hee was holy and Religious the Chapels and Churches he did frequent, and from whence no occaſion

occaſion could draw him; the almes he gaue (which at this day would not only feede the poore, but the great mans family alſo) and the bountie which Religion and Learning daily tooke from him, are Trumpets ſo loude, that all eares know them; ſo that I conclude, and ſay of him, as the euer memorable Queene *Elizabeth* ſaid of Sir *Charles Blount*, Lord *Montioy*, and after Earle of *Deuonſhire*, that he was *Honeſtus, Pietas, & Magnanimus.*

What ſhall I ſpeake of the two famous wonders of our Land, the euer memorable Sir *Francis Vere* deceaſed; and Sir *Horace Vere* now liuing, his noble brother: to ſpeake of one action, were to draw thouſands into my remembrance; or to name one place, were to lay the Map of almoſt all Europe before me: and therefore I will referre you to the Chronicles of *Spaine* and *Portugale*, where as long as there ſtands a *Cales*, or abides an Iland of the *Azores*, you ſhall ſee a *Vere* in a Souldiers Triumph. Looke in many of the viewes of France, and there you ſhall finde *Vere* armed: ſee the Stories of the diſſentions in *Germanie*, and there you ſhall finde *Vere* ſtrugling with *Honour*; nay, looke in all that hath beene written in the *Neatherlands*, within the compaſſe of the longeſt memory now liuing, and belieue it in euery page, in euery action, *Vere* cannot be omitted: only in that Storie there is one pretty ſecret or myſterie which I cannot let paſſe vntouched, becauſe it brings many difficulties or doubts into the minde of an ignorant Reader; and that is, the miſtaking of names, for the Authour of that Worke bindes himſelfe too ſtrictly to the Scripture phraſe, which is to

Sir *Francis Vere* and Sir *Horace Vere.*

make one name to containe another; as the name *Adam* to containe the name *Eua* also, and the word *man* to containe the word *woman* also; and so the Authour speaking of many notable and famous exploits fortunately performed, deliuers you peraduenture but the name of *Nassau*, or the *Dutch*, and such like; whereas in truth and true meaning, the name of *Vere* should euer be included within them, & the sence so read, the Story is perfect. I speak not this to derogate any thing from the excellencies of that most excellent Prince to whose Vertues I could willingly fall down & become a bond-slaue; for the whole World must allow him a Souldier vnparaleld, and a Prince of infinite merit: but only to shew that the least spark of Vertue which is, cannot chuse but repine when it finds a great Vertue iniur'd by a pen whose blaunching might make the whole World forgetfull.

*Henry* Earle of *Oxford* the 18. Earle.

Lastly, thou shalt not neede to reade, but with thy finger point at the life of the now Earle of *Oxford*, of whom but to speake reasonable truthes (such is the poison of Enuy,) euery good word would be accounted flattery, and to speake any thing contrary to goodnesse, Truth her selfe would swear it were meere Falshood; Therefore I will forbeare his Chronicle, and only say thus, that his Cradle did point him out a Souldier; for he brought that spirit with him into the World, and that spirit he hath still nourisht; for diuide his Age into three parts, and I thinke two of them haue beene bestowed on Forraine Nations; neither hath he let slip any occasion (how great or low soeuer) which might put him into action, hee hath hung about the neck of his noble Kinsman like a rich

*Sir Horace Vere.*

Iewell

Iewell, and the one hath ſo adorned the other, the one with Counſell, the other with obedience; the one ſhewing what to doe, the other doing what was fit to be done, that if there be a hope whereon mortalitie may build, there is none more ſtrong, then that wee haue of this Nobleman. Goe on then great Prince in this braue careire of *Honour*, and fixe for thine obiect the deſignes of thy famous Aunceſtour; and as he reſtored the loſt Houſe of *Lancaſter*; ſo I Prophefie, if thou beeſt not the head, yet thou wilt bee the right arme to the body which ſhall bring backe againe to the royall owner the now waſted *Palatinate*.

Now for a Concluſion to this Noble Houſe, Know thou whatſoeuer thou art which ſhalt reade this diſcourſe, that albe I nominate here but foure Earles, and the firſt in the daies of *Henry* the ſixt; yet there haue beene of the name of *Vere* eighteene Earles of *Oxford*; of which the firſt, *Aubery Vere* was created Earle of *Oxford*, and High Chamberlaine of England, to him and his heires males for euer, in the daies of *Henry* the firſt, who was ſonne to *William* the Conquerour, which is Honour almoſt as early as could be; for before the Conqueſt there is no certaintie any of Honour hereditarie in this Land: and thus they haue ſucceſſiuely followed till this day.

The Storie of the Houſe of *Southampton*.

Next (O *Britaine*) reade vnto thy ſofter Nobilitie the Storie of the Noble Houſe of *Southampton*; That ſhall bring new fier to their blouds, and make of the little ſparkes of *Honour* great flames of excellency; ſhew them the life of *Thomas Wriotheſley* Earle of *Southampton*, who was both an excellent Souldier, and an admirable Scholler, who not only ſerued the great

*Thomas* Earle of *Southamton*.

King his Maſter (*Henry* the eight) in his warres, but in his Counſell Chamber; not only in the field, but on the Bench, within his Courts of ciuill Iuſtice: This man for his excellent parts, was made Lord *Chauncelour* of England where he gouerned with that integritie of heart and true mixture of Conuience and Iuſtice, that he wonne the hearts both of the King and people.

*Henry* Earle of *Southampton.*

After this noble Prince ſucceeded his ſonne *Henry* Earle of *Southampton*, a man of no leſſe vertue, proweſſe, and wiſedome, euer beloued and fauoured of his Prince, highly reuerenced and fauoured of all that were in his owne ranke, and brauely attended and ſerued by the beſt Gentlemen of thoſe Countries wherin he liued; his muſter role neuer conſiſted of foure *Lackeys* and a *Coachman*, but of a whole troupe of at leaſt an hundred well mounted Gentlemen and Yeomen; he was not knowne in the Streetes by guarded Liuories, but by Gold Chaines; not by painted Butterflies, euer running as if ſom monſter purſued them, but by tall goodly fellowes that kept a conſtant pace both to guard his perſon, and to admit any man to their Lord which had ſerious buſineſſe. This Prince could not ſteale or drop into an ignoble place, neither might doe any thing vnworthy of his great calling; for hee euer had a world of teſtimonies about him.

*Henry*, ſecond of that name Earle of *Southampton.*

When it pleaſed the diuine goodneſſe to take to his mercy this great Earle; hee left behinde to ſucceede him *Henry* Earle of *Southampton* his Sonne (now liuing) being then a childe; But here mee thinkes *Cinthius aurem vellet*, ſomething puls me by the

the elbow, & bids me forbeare, for flatterie is a deadly ſinne, and will damme Reputation: But ſhall I that euer loued and admired this Earle, that liued many yeares where I daily ſaw this Earle; that knew him before the warres, In the warres, and ſince the warres; ſhall I that haue ſeene him indure the worſt mallice or vengeance, that the Sea, Tempeſts, or Thunder could vtter, that haue ſeene him vndergoe all the extremities of warre, that haue ſeene him ſerue in perſon on the enemy, and againſt the enemy: ſhall I that haue ſeene him receiue the reward of a Souldier (before the face of the Enemie) for the beſt act of a Souldier (done vpon the Enemie:) Shall I be ſcarrd with ſhadowes? No; *Truth* is my Miſtreſſe, and though I can write nothing which can equall the leaſt ſparke of fire within him, yet for her ſake will I ſpeake ſome thing which may inflame thoſe that are heauy and dul and of mine owne temper. The Iourney to the *Azores*.

This Earle (as I ſaid before) came to his Fathers dignitie in his childhood, ſpending that and his other yonger times in the ſtudie of good Letters (to which the Vniuerſitie of *Cambridge* is a witneſſe) and after confirmed that Studie with trauell and forraigne obſeruation. The Earles education.

As ſoone as he came to write full and perfit Man, he betooke himſelfe vnto the warres, was made Commander of the *Garland*, one of Queene *Elizabeth* (of famous memorie) her beſt ſhips; and was *Vice-Admirall* of the firſt Squadron. In his firſt putting out to Sea, hee ſaw all the Terrours and Euils which the Sea had power to ſhew to mortaiitie inſo- His going to the warres.

*Robert* Earle of *Essex.*

much, that the Generall and the whole Fleete (except ſome few ſhippes, of which this Earles was one) were driuen backe into *Plimouth*, but this Earle in ſpight of ſtormes, held out his courſe, made the coaſt of *Spaine*, and after vpon an *Aduiſo* returned. The Fleete new reenforſt made fourth to Sea againe with better proſperitie, came to the Ilands of the *Azores*,

*Fiall* taken.

and there firſt tooke the Iland of *Fiall*, ſackt and burnt the great Towne, tooke the high Fort which was held impregnable; and made the reſt of the Ilands, as *Pike*, Saint *Georges*, and *Gratioſa*, obedient to the Gene-

*Robert* Earle of *Eſſex.*

rals ſeruice; Then the Fleete returning from *Fiall*, it pleaſed the Generall to diuide it, and he went himſelfe on the one ſide of *Gratioſa*, and the Earle of *Southampton* with ſome three more of the Queenes Ships and a few ſmall Marchants Ships ſailed on the other,

Spaines Indian Fleete beaten.

when early in a morning by ſpring of day, This braue *Southampton* light vpon the King of *Spaines* Indian Fleete laden with Treaſure, being about foure or fiue and thirty Saile, and moſt of them great warlike Gallioons; they had all the aduantage that ſea, winde, number of ſhips or ſtrength of men could giue them; yet like a fearefull heard they fled from the fury of our Earle; who notwithſtanding gaue them chaſe with all his Canuaſe; one he tooke, and ſunke her, diuers hee diſpierſt which were taken after, and the reſt he draue into the Iland of *Tercera*, which was thē vnaſſaileable.

The Earle of *Eſſex.*

After this, he ioyned with the Generall againe, and came to the Iland of Saint *Michaels*, where they tooke

*Villa Franca* taken, and a Carracke ſplit.

and ſpoiled the Towne of *Villa Franca*; and at *Porte Algado* made a Charrackt runne on ground and ſplit her ſelfe; after being ready to depart, the enemie taking

king aduantage of our rising, and finding that most of our men were gone aboard, & but only the *General*, the Earle of *Southampto̅*, S^r. *Francis Vere*, & som few others left on Shoare, they came with their vtmost power vpon them, but were receiued with so hot an incounter, that many of the Spaniards were put to the sword, and the rest inforced to runne away : and in this skirmish no man had aduantage of safetie, for the number was (on our part) so few, that euery man had his hands imployment; and here the Earle of *Southampton* ere he could dry the sweat from his browes, or put his sword vp in the scaberd, receiued from the Noble *Generall*, *Robert* Earle of *Essex*, the order of Knighthood.

The Enemies assault, and are beaten.

*Southampton* Knighted.

After this, he returned for England and came fortunately home, but fel he here a sleep with any inchantment either of Peace or Pleasure ? O no; but here he did, as it were, but new begin the progresse of his more noble actions : for now the wilde and sturdy Irish rebels (fatned with some Conquests, and made strong with forraigne aide, to get more Conquest) began to rage like wilde Boares, and to root vp euery fruitfull place in that Kingdome, so that without a sodaine chastisement, it was likely the euill would grow past all cuer; To this worke the Earle of *Southampton* buckles on his Armour, and after the Generall was chosen, which was *Robert* Earle of *Essex*, he is the first tenders his sernice; he is instantly made Lieutenant Generall of the Horse, prepares for the expedition, and with all possible speed came into Ireland, there he was a principall instrument in calming all the turmoiles, and ceasing the seditions in *Munster*, reducing

*Southampton* goes to Ireland.

He appeases *Munster*.

ducing that fruitfull and well peopled Prouince to their auncient and true obedience, and making those which fauour and grace could not reclaime, by force of Armes to lye humbly prostrate before him; witnesse *Mongarret*, *Donna-Spaniah*, the *Souggan*, *Oni-mac-Rori*, and a world of others, which being the wickedest of men, came and threw themselues at the feete of the Generall, and only cryed out for the Queenes and his mercy; Thus he also reduced the Country of *Fercall*, and diuers other places, and then returned.

But is here an end of his progresse in the warres? questionlesse the whole world would haue so imagined, for his deare and dread Soueraigne, the euer memorable *Elizabeth* dying, the next that succeeds is the incomparable King *Iames*; he enters not with an Oliue Branch in his hand, but with an whole Forrest of *Oliues* round about him; for he brought not Peace to this Kingdome alone, but almost to all the Christian Kingdomes in Europe: he closed vp both ours and our neighbours *Ianus* Temple, and writing *Beati pacifici*, found both the worke and the Reward in his admirable proceedings; here our great Earle stops, but retires not; hee keepes his first ground, and the King (like the Sunne which suruaies althings) found hat he was fit for either the one or the other seruice; *Peace* and *warre* were to him but a couple of hand-maids, and he knew how to employ either according to their Vertue: hence he makes him a Priuie Counsellour of the State, and in that seruice he spent the marrow and strength of his age.

Now at last, when *Mischiefe* and *Policie* went about by delicate and inchanting poisons, not only to stifle

ſtifle our Peace, but to murther and confound all our louing neighbours which guard vs ; and that *Charitie* her ſelfe complained how our almes were much to penurious; he who is one of the firſt which riſes vp to this labour of amendment: but our *Southampton*, he whom although the priuiledge of white haires, the teſtimonie of his former actions, and the neceſſitie of his imployments in the preſent ſtate, might haue pleaded many vnrefellable excuſes; yet he is the ſonne of *Honour*, and with her he will liue and die in all occaſions; hence he embarks himſelf into this preſent action: Go on then braue Earle, and as thou art by yeares, experience, and the greatneſſe of thy former places and commandments in the warres, the eldeſt ſonne of *Honour* in this Army, ſo giue vnto theſe thy Companions examples of thy goodneſſe ; ſhew them the true paths of *Honour*, and be thou the Eies and Conduct to leade to the reſtitution of the loſt *Palatinate*, for therein conſiſts my Propheſie.

The Storie of the Houſe of *Eſſex*.

After this (O *Britaine*) reade to thy growing ſpirits the euer memorable Storie of the Noble Houſe of *Eſſex* ; euery ſmall tittle of that glory is able to make a very earthy ſoule glorious, how much more then a ſoule of any reaſonable good compoſition? thou needeſt not reade it in any lowd key, for the whole World is but a Theater of their Renowne, the Tongues of all people make but vp the Trumpet which ſpeakes them ; and it is Eternitie it ſelfe which ſhall keepe them to euerlaſting memorie.

*Walter Deuereux* Earle of *Eſſex*.

Speake then firſt of the Noble *Walter*, Earle of *Eſſex* (I do not meane that in this Treatiſe thou ſhouldſt

ſpeake of all his Noble actions; for great Volumes are to little to containe them:) But like an Index or Table vnto greatneſſe, point out where thoſe glories may be better diſcerned: Let it ſuffice me to ſay hee was a man compounded of the foure Vertues, as of foure Elements, *Honour*, *Valour*, *Bountie*, and *Humilitie*; for the firſt he had it from his Birth, and made an augmentation of it in his life, for from *Vicount* he became an *Earle*; the ſecond could neuer be ſeperated from his Bloud, and he expreſt it in his profeſſion, for he was a Souldier; the third was the foundation of his diſpoſition, for he could not indure to ſee merit weeping; and the fourth was the Iſſue of al the others goodneſſes; for he could neuer indure to imagine his owne ſhadow a haires breadth greater then thoſe that did walke hand in hand with him. This Earle was by Queene *Elizabeth*, of famous memorie, made Lord Marſhall of *Ireland*; It was he that brought the great *O-neale* into ſubiectiõ, made the firſt euil *Deſmund* put on the yoake of true, obedience, and reduced that barbarous Nation to their firſt rules of noble ciuility: which when he had performed to the admiration of all men; he then returned to *Dublin*, and there dyed, and was buried at Caermarden in Wales (where hee was borne) and there his memorie will liue for euer.

*Robert* Earle of *Eſſex*.

After him ſucceeded in his dignitie his deare ſonne *Robert* (ſurnamed the Great) Earle of *Eſſex*, a man of whom it behoueth euery man to be carefull how to write, becauſe his excellent parts were ſo great, and the enuy which attends ſuch excellency is ſo boundleſſe; that grow the Ruſh neuer ſo ſmoothe, yet there will be a knot, and let the ſpeech be neuer ſo modeſt,

yet

yet there will be too much or too little ſpoken; Therefore, I will only flye to my Miſtreſſe *Truth*, and vnder her protection giue a glaunce at ſome part of his Story.

The Earles education.

This Earle was by his father left young vnto the World; and therefore by his mother trained vp to the knowledge both of *Armes* and *Letters*, and that with ſuch a carefull (yet Noble) ſeueritie, that the Vniuerſity wherein he liued will and muſt confeſſe, that not the poreſt Pentioner or Houſe-ſcholler whatſoeuer kept his acts or diſputations more duly, freely, and out of his owne knowledge and readings then this Earle did, nor had the Vniuerſitie (at that time) any wit more pretious then other (being of his time) to which he was not an oponent, ſo excellent ripe was his Vnderſtanding, & ſo delicate his deliuery of thoſe things which hee vnderſtood: As ſoone as he left the Vniuerſitie, he was call'd for to the Court, where his Soueraigne (the wiſeſt of all Soueraignes) threw vpon him all poſſible Fauours; and although for his youth and beauty he might, like *Pirocles*, haue made *Baſilius* doat on his ſweetneſſe, yet ſuch was his caryage, that he was able to haue giuen Ornament to any Counſell Chamber.

His ſeruice in the Low-countries.

In this firſt flouriſhing time of his youth, *Spaine* tyranizing too hardly vpon our beſt Neighbours the *Neatherlands*, the euer memorable and renouned Queene *Elizabeth*, takes them to her protection, and with a Royall Army, vnder the conduct of *Robert* Earle of *Leiceſter* preuents thoſe Tempeſts which elſe might fall vpon them; In this Armie, *Robert* Earle of *Eſſex* is made *Lieutenant Generall* of the Horſe, in

which charge he bore himselfe so nobly, and with such Brauerie of spirit, that whilst *Arnam*, or the *Sconces*, *Duesburie*, *Zutfen*, *Deuentrie*, *Blankenburie*, and a world of other places (taken from the enemie) stand, the renowne of this Noble man can neither perish nor be forgotten.

The Earle of *Essex* seruice in *Portugal*.

He is no sooner enfranchised from this seruice, but the poore King of *Portugale*, *Don Antonio* (held violently out of his right by the King of *Spaine* after the death of *Sebastian*) comes into England, fals at the feet of the great Queene *Elizabeth*; shewes his Iniury, and pleads to her mercy, for Succour: Shee who was altogether a plentifull Fountaine of pittie; after cautious and assurances giuen of the reuolt of the *Portugals*, if an Army should be brought to relieue him, presently vouchafes him aide, and sends away a Royall Army, vnder the conduct of the second *Hannibal* of the World, Sir *Iohn Norris* Knight, and that much Sea-loued Gentleman, Sir *Frauncis Drake*.

The Earle of *Essex* seruice in *France*.

In this expedition, *Essex* desires to bee imployed; but his Soueraigne, who held him either too pretious, or the action too low; or else had imployments for him of greater and higher nature, refuseth to admit him; which hee perceiuing, and being all then on fire, and such a fire as no imployment of Peace was able to quench, secretly and vnknowne to any creature, but his deareſt obseruer Sir *Roger Williams*, hee stole from the Court (and the Ships beeing ready to dis-imboage), put himselfe aboard, and so went the whole voyage, what there hee did the very Gates of *Lysbone* can testifie, and the Suburbs at this day are ficke

of

of his ruines, and had the Citizens beene halfe as faithfull as he was Valiant, *Don Antonio* and his ſeede had in probabilitie worne the Crowne till this houre. The *Groine* will ſpeake of him, for ſhe felt him; nay, generally all *Portugale* did admire him, and to the whole Kingdome and people of *Spaine* his name was dreadfull.

Some few yeares after this expedition ended, it pleaſed God by the hand of a paricide Villane (a Popiſh *Fryar*, one that the Deuill and the Ieſuites had beene long in breeding) to ſuffer the life of *Henry* the third of *France* to be taken away, whoſe next Succeſſour was *Henry* the fourth (ſirnamed the Great) of the Houſe of *Burbone*, and then King of *Nauarre*; but vp ſtarts the Deuils miniſters, by the name of *Leaguers*, or the *League*, and they with-ſtood that inuincible Prince, ſo powerfully (though treacherouſly) that the diſtreſſed King is compelled to complaine to the great Miſtreſſe of comfort, the renowned *Elizabeth*: Shee preſently vouchſafes him aide, and vnder the conduct of this moſt excellent Earle, *Robert* Earle of *Eſſex* (whom ſhe made her Generall) ſhe ſent into *France* (number for number) the goodlieſt, the richeſt, and the moſt glorious Army that euer the Sunne ſhined on. O! yet me thinkes I ſee the enter-view, or firſt meeting betweene the King and this Earle, where the Flowers of England and the Flowers of *France* mixing together, gold ſo reflected vpon gold, that the Ayre and the Earth ſeemed all to be one flame, and the Sunne bluſhing, ſhrunke to ſee his glory ecclipſed.

The Earle of *Eſſex* ſeruice in *France*.

The meeting of the Earle and the King.

The Earle had not beene many daies in *France*,

but he reduced to the Kings obedience all the Country of *Normandie*, the Citie of *Roan* only excepted, againſt which the Earle laid a ſtrong ſiege, & brought it to that low ebbe of ſafetie, that hee offered to giue it the King when he pleaſed; for he had made breaches ſo large, and paſſages ſo eaſie, that there was no difficultie in the conqueſt; but the King ſaid, *He deſired to winne France, not to conquer France*; ſo that the worke by ſufferance grew longer, yet in the ende hee made it become proſtrate to the Kings obedience. What ſhall I ſay to the actions of this great Earle? but only thus, that Fortune (in theſe daies) was ſo far from diſpleaſing him, that ſhee ſeemed to labour for nothing ſo much as for his exaltation.

The Earles iourney to *Cales*.

After he had finiſhed his great worke in *France*, and was returned home with the admiration and applauſe of both Kingdomes, and had receiued from his great Miſtreſſe a condigne reward (for the Queene made him the Maſter of the Ordnance.) After ſome few yeares ſpent in Peace, occaſion being offered, by the iniuries of the King of *Spaine* (then Iuing) who like a Lyon lay euer ſleeping with his eyes open, to catch all aduantages which might any waies moleſt vs: The Queene with a Royall Armie, vnder the conduct of this thrice Noble Earle, ſent him into the very heart and bowels of *Spaine*, I mean to the moſt feeling members, and fruitfulleſt parts of all that Kingdome; there in this Iourney, he tooke the Towne of *Cales*, ſacked it and burnt it; and brought away not onely all the wealth of the place, but of all the Country round about it. After his departure thence, hee came into *Portugale*, and there tooke the Towne of *Pharo*, and

ſackt

ſackt it, & had his Commiſſion giuen his great heart libertie, I thinke his Lordſhip found eaſineſſe enough to haue ſackt alſo both *Siuil* and *Lisbone*; but laden with theſe ſpoiles, he returned home, and brought into England an infinite maſſe of wealth.

The next yeare following this expedition, hee (by the Queenes appointment raiſed vp an other Army, and went with it to the Ilands of the *Azores*, belonging to the King of *Spaine*, being nine in number, to wit, Saint *Michaels*, Saint *Maries*, *Tercera*, *Gratioſa*, *Fiall*, *Pike*, Saint *Georges*, *Flores*, and *Corus*, and moſt of theſe well fortified, ſtrongly guarded, and of great conſequence: for they are the very Store-houſes or garners which giue reliefe to all the King of *Spaines* ſhipping, in their returne from the Weſt Indies: All theſe Ilands this Noble Earle tooke, ſome hee ſackt, & ſome he ranſomed, & the entier wealth he brought home into England; for which braue exploit and many others, the Queene created him Earle Marſhall of England. The Earles iourney to the *Azores*.

After he had repoſed himſelfe a little at home (for I cannot call it reſt) the Iriſh Rebels, vnder the Generall conduct of the Earle of *Tiron*, but eſpecially in *Vlſter*: vnder the conduct of the baſtard ſonne of *Deſmount*, *Oni-mac*, *Sori*; and others in *Munſter*: vnder the conduct of *Filo-maceſuſe*, and *Redmeale* his brother in *Lemſter*; and vnder the conduct of Captaine *Terrol* in both *Eaſt-meathe* and *weſt-meathe*, had ſet all *Ireland* on fire by their treacherous and baſe combuſtions: To ſuppreſſe this, the Noble *Eſſex* is called for, and made Lieutenant of *Ireland*, a Royall Armie is raiſed, and with it hee came into that much ruined The Earles ſeruice in *Ireland*.

King-

Kingdome, where betwixt *May* day and *Michaelmas* he brought *Munſter* into obedience; draue all the Rebels out of *Lenſter*, made *Eaſt-meathe* and *Weſtmeathe* as peaceable as any part of England; ſetled in quietneſſe the greateſt part of *Conagh*, euen from *Athlone* to the foot of the vnfortunate *Curlewes*; and brought the Earle of *Tiron* himſelfe to a feareſull Capitulation; But then other Planets riſing, and this Noble Earles fortunes beeing to be gouerned by new conſtellations; he is compelled to returne for England, and ſo ſhooke hands with the warres for euer.

*Robert*, ſecond of that name Earle of *Eſſex*.

After him ſucceeded in his dignitie. his ſonne *Robert* Earle of *Eſſex*, now liuing, whom he left vnto the world young and tender, yet a Souldier from his cradle; for his whole delight was in Martial Exerciſes, & of this I dare iudge, becauſe I profeſſe it, that when he was a very child, both in yeares and ſtrength, few horſemen in the Kingdome (the Gentleman that taught him excepted) did ride better, valianter, or with more diſcretion and iudgement; In the Vniuerſitie he ſpent his firſt time, where he got both admiration, loue, and Learning; and indeed being the ſonne of that Father, the very naming of his Name, was enough to raiſe an army to gaze vpon him, & cry out, That Heauen would protect him: From the Vniuerſitie, he betook himſelf to trauell, wherin he ſpent many yeares for the bettering of his knowledge, and ſome in beholding the warres in the *Neatherlands*, being an obiect to which his heart was fixed; as ſoone as occaſion was offered he entred himſelfe into the lyſt of Souldiers like a Soulder, humbling himſelfe to the loweſt degree (conſidering his greatneſſe) that thereby

*Mr. Henry Alexander.*

The Earle went a Captaine into the *Palatinate*.

by he might make his Scale more noble and perfit. In the *Palatinate* he did both Summer and Winter, held out all extremities, and in despite of Famine, Sword, and Sickneſſe returned home with *Honour*.

The Storie of the Houſe of *Willoughby*.

Now laſt of all (new matter being offered) he hath put himſelfe on this preſent action; Proceede in it braue Earle, and proſper; thou that art the Image of thy Fathers body, be the imitatour of his actions, and I doubt not but Heauen will powre vpon thee a ten times treble meaſure of his bleſt and Glorious Rewards: go on I ſay couragiouſly, and be the Heart of this warlike preparation; the large heart, the vnyeelding heart, that thou maiſt inflame & burne all things before thee, till the Enemie be glad that thy Maſters Children will receiue their Inheritance, for ſo my hopes Propheſie, and ſo I hope God himſelfe hath ſpoken.

*William* Lord *Willoughby*.

Laſtly, reade (O *Britaine*) to thine vnkindled ſpirits the Storie of the Houſe of *Willoughby*; a Storie, that whoſoeuer will turne ouer that great Volume, ſhall finde it full of *Honour*, full of wonder, full of Vertue, full of great actions: for mine owne part, I can but touch at the names, the matter and Subſtance lies at large inrolled by a much better pen-man.

And firſt (as fitteſt for this ſhort diſcourſe, and omitting many that went before him) I will begin with *William* Lord *Willoughby*, in the daies of King *Henry* the eight, who was a man of infinite courage and vertue, of high thoughts, deepe wiſdome, and diſcreete caryage; hee commanded (whileſt he liued) in all the Kings Warres; went on euer with renowne, and came off euer with glory; inſomuch, that *Henry* the eight

(that potent King) held him as one of the richeſt Iuels which adorne his Kingdome, and thought no fauour too deare or pretious for ſuch great deſeruings, but the beſt things on earth are euer ſubiect to Mortalitie; for it pleaſed God, when this braue Lord was in his greateſt proſperitie of Fortune, and the higheſt fauour with his Soueraigne, to take him to his mercy; and he died without any Iſſue male of his body, and only left behind him a Daughter and heire called *Katherine*, which was maryed to that great heroyicall Lord *Charles Brandon* Duke of *Suffolke*, ſo that the King ſeeing the name of *Willoughby*, which he loued ſo dearely, and had ſo dearely deſerued at his Royall hands, likely to be loſt in this ſweete Lady, began to take it to his conſideration, and to make as it were a monument to preſerue this great Name, and to giue it ſtill a quickning life in his remembrance; hee called for a well-loued Kinſman of this Lord *Willoughbies*, and created him (in memorie of the other) Lord *Willoughby* of *Param*: But ſee the effect & working of Prouidence, after the death of the Duke of *Suffolke*, this Lady *Katherine* his Ducheſſe maryed with *Bartue*, by whom ſhee had a ſonne (borne beyond the Seas) which ſhe called *Peregrine*, and was in her right Lord *Willoughby* of *Eresby*. To tell the Storie of this great Ducheſſe life, how worthily, Religiouſly, and bountifully ſhee liued here in England; how malitiouſly, cruelly, and treacherouſly ſhee was hunted, and purſued for her life, ouer all Chriſtendome, by an whole Kennell of the Popes worſt deuouring Woolues: to tell the dangers ſhee eſcaped, the magnanimitie

*Katherine* Ducheſſe of *Suffolke.*

nanimitie ſhee vſed, the extremities ſhee was put to; to tell the ſnares that were laid to intrap her; and the pretty ſleights, her ſweetneſſe vſed to eſcape them; to ſee how buſie the Deuill was to vndermine her, and how ſtrong God was to protect her, would raiſe vp amazement, euen in ſtones, and make the Earth cry out, *O Dea certe.*

*Peregrine* Lord *Willoughby.*

After her ſucceeded *Peregrine*, Lord *Willoughby*, the myrror and myrackle of his time. This man muſt needes bee a Souldier; for hee was borne in the Warres, nurſt in the Warres, brought vp in the Warres; his whole life nothing but a Storie of the Wars, and the laſt act of his life was playd in a Town of Gariſon: Of this mans actions, all the *Neatherlands* can report (and eſpecially *Bergenupzone*) for in them, where was any fury of Warre, out of which hee brought not Triumph; and the Duke of *Parma* himſelfe, whereſoeuer his Chronickle is read of the *Neatherlands*, muſt bee contented (if Truth bee witneſſe) to haue this Lord *willoughby* triumphant againſt him. *France*, thou muſt likewiſe bee a Trumpet of this Noblemans Glory; and *Paris* thou muſt bee an euidence too ſtrong to bee refelled, thou knoweſt hee blew vp thy Ports, and battered downe thy Walls, and had not the Kings mercy throwne cold water on his anger, tis well knowne hee had wrapt thee vp in a bloudy mantell; for exceeding great were his deſignes, and very good both his ſucceſſe and Fortune; ſo that lawfully (without arrogance) he might haue aſſumed *Cæſars* inſcription, which was

*Veni, vidi, vici*, for althings proued easie to his vndertakings.

The Lord *Willoughby* made gouernour of *Berwicke*.

Lastly, when hee had performed all his great Mistresses commandements, and brought peace to her Neighbours, he then returned into England, where in recompence of his great seruices, she made him Gouernour of her warlike Towne of *Berwicke*, and in that Gouernment, with peace of contience, and the loue of all sorts of People : he died, and was exceedingly lamented.

*Robert* Lord *Willoughby*.

After him succeeded in his dignitie, *Robert* Lord *Willoughby* his sonne, now liuing, who hitherto hath followed his Fathesr step for step to *Honor*; put on his Armour almost as soone, and had imployments been as frequent and abundant as in the daies of his Father, doubtlesse he had ariued at a great part of his glories : notwithstanding, he did neither neglect, nor loose time, but tooke hold vpon all occasions; neither did Peace or Ease cast any such mist about him, but that our Royall King *Iames* his great Master, found him worthy of imployment; so that when his deare Brother, the King of *Denmarke* stood oppressed with Iniurious Neighbours, it pleased him (for his Vertues sake) to elect this Noble man, and made him Generall of an Army which he sent to his succour : There this Lord acted all the parts of a most glorious Souldier; for he gaue to the King of *Denmarke* all satisfaction, made the enemie feele his courage, and his friends taste his loue; he cloathed euery great desert with *Honour*, and euery lesse with his Bounty, so that after his worke finished, he returned home with praise, and found fauour in the eies both of his great Master, and Royall Mistresse.

After

After this expedition, the peacefulneſſe of the times kept both his body and minde a priſoner, till now at laſt, our Neighbours harmes teaching vs how to huſband ſafetie, hath giuen libertie to this new Armie; in which this Lord is a principall Commander: Goe on then braue Lord in this braue deſigne, and make euery obſtacle the Enemie would finde to deterre or hinder thee, a new ſpurre to quicken thy reſolution, & a new flame to kindle thine anger; thou haſt a plentifull Catalogue of preſidents in thine owne Bloud, reade them ouer and ouer; and when this great Subſtance of Martaill reſolutions ſhall bee brought to a comely and inuincible Body; be thou the proſperous and ſucceſſefull Foote, which in deſpite of all oppoſitions, ſhall march forward and bring the reſt to the long wiſht for *Palatinate*. Doe this proſperouſly, doe this bouldly, for I preſage it is a worke to which God hath called thee, and Angels will clap their wings when they ſee it effected.

A remembrance of the Lord *Wriotheſley*, the Lord *De-Ware*, and the Lord *Montioy*.

When (O *Britaine*) thou haſt read theſe foure Chronicles to thy younger Schollers; if thou findeſt any heauie or vnapt for Noble Action; eſpecially, where youth and abilitie of body hath giuen incouragement of better hopes, then point them out theſe three young *Cæſars*: the Lord *Wriotheſley*; the Lord *La-Ware*, and the Lord *Montioy*, let them looke vpon them with admiration, and when they haue perfitly viewed them, let them ſigh and bluſh for ſhame that they are not equall partners of their vndertakings; let them behold the obiect whereat they looke, and they ſhall finde it is ſacred and not profane, a marke of holineſſe, not a blazing meteor of greatneſſe; looke on

the chaine which drawes them, and they ſhall finde it iuſtice, not the quarrel of earthly paſſion; and let them looke at the end whereat they would aime, and they ſhall finde it is Heauen and the Communitie with Saints, not the Court (which is the Theater of worldly praiſe) nor the Princes fauour: But if all this preuaile not, but ſtill this ſecure Slumber of Peace will lye heauy vpon them; then ſtirre vp thy warme bloud, and modeſtly thus chide them:

Tell them, that as the King is the great maine Ocean or Sea of all Honour, and may beſtow his waters freely at his pleaſure; ſo he expects from thoſe which are his pettie Riuers, that hourely to him they pay backe their Tributes: That hand which giues Honor, euer lookes from the honour'd hand to receiue ſome ſeruice; Then you (O you yong men, you ablemen) you that haue receiued honors beyond expectations, fauours paſt hope, and wealth paſt merit: Looke whether your Riuers be not conuerted to ſtanding lakes, and no Tribute returned, and whether your ſeruices be not concealed, whileſt poore barren wiſhes only make good the place of a dead duty; if you finde theſe falts amend them, if you finde theſe falts forſake them.

Againe, tell theſe great ones (whom hardly Thunder can awaken) that when they neglect *Honour*, they neglect and are rebellious againſt God, and it is a meere folly for them to hope to rule men, when they will not be ruled by him that made them; But they will anſwere thee, that greatneſſe of place, giues them priuiledge from Cenſure, and ſo they can cary a faire ſhew, no matter for ſufficiencie. Reply thou that it is folly to thinke ſo, for aſſure them that a ſuperficiall

perficiall ſhew of ſufficiencie, is but like ſmall Wines which will not keepe, and being once tainted, no poiſon like that of Contempt.

Say vnto thoſe which are dull, and want good matter whereon to build great thoughts, that as ſmall ſprings are ſoone emptied if they be often drawne; ſo ſpirits that haue weake foundations, ſilence is good to make them ſeeme wiſe; but when Wiſedome comes to proue them, euery imagined good thing (in them) fals aſunder like ſo many diſioyned peices.

Tell the phantaſticke Mimmickes of honour, thoſe which are caried away with euery ſhadow of fauour or faſhion, that neuer fixe vpon any thing that is conſtant or ſerious; that alwaies hunt after vanities, and thinke no exerciſe in Armes ſo meritorious, as toſſing a Shyttelwike: tell them the ſtudy of vaine things is a toileſome Idleneſſe, and a painefull Folly; the ſpirit which is ſtrucke with this diſeaſe, are very hardly cured; neither can their curioſitie in this kinde (how carefull ſoeuer) afford them any thing but Ignorance; and belieue it, there is nothing more diſhonourable or daungerous either to Court or Common-wealth, then an Ignorant great one: Tell them that *Henry* the Great of *France*, call'd Ignorant Noble-men *Golden Calues*, and all that did Reuerence to them, were worthy to periſh for Idolatrie: It was his opinion, that Noblemen might bee borne good, Generous, and capable of Vertue; but Inſtruction only makes them wiſe: Wiſedome cannot be gotten without paine, ſhe cannot be ſold, or if ſhe could, it is ten to one, this ſort of Nobilitie would neuer

neuer buy her, there are ſo many follies to ſtep betwixt her and them, which are both cheape, and euer ready to pull downe the market.

Laſtly, and for a Concluſion of this ſmall Treatiſe, ſay to him, whatſoeuer hee be that ſhall taxe me of bitterneſſe, or thinke I haue gone beyond the bounds of good manners in ſeeking to aduiſe them, who are aboue the rule of my knowledge, and that whatſoeuer is aboue me doth nothing belong vnto me, tell them they are miſtaken: Bid them call to minde, that the Tree which grew from *Romulus* Iaueling (when he threw it into the ground) was walled about by the *Romans*, and kept ſo carefully, that if any man (of what degree ſoeuer) ſaw the leaues begin to wither, he preſently gaue an allarum to the whole Citie, and cryed for water as if all had beene on fire: In like manner, Subiects haue cauſe to grieue and call out, when as thoſe plants, from whence they hope to gather the ſtrength of *Protection*, the fruits of *Iuſtice* and the ſhadow of their *reſt*, doe wither either through the negligence of thoſe which ſhould prune and preſerue them, or through the want of good Sap, which might be infuſed into them by due watering and manuring.

FINIS.